AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please cancel (renumbered) claims 26-101 without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the Specification

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, lines 4-8 of the application, and replace it with the following:

A1

The present application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/029,044 filed October 29, 1996. The entire text of the above-referenced disclosure is specifically incorporated by reference herein without disclaimer. The present application is also a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/303,161, filed April 29, 1999, and PCT/US97/20170, filed October 29, 1997. The government may own rights in the present invention pursuant to grant numbers RO1 AI30581 and POI CA18221 from the National Institutes of Health.

Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 72-73 and replace it with the following:

A2

Labeling, immunoprecipitation and detection of MICA. For surface labeling, washed cells in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) were biotinylated with SULFO-NHS-LC-BIOTION™ (Pierce Chemical Co., Rockford, IL) (100 μg/ml) for 30 min at 4° C and reactions quenched by addition of 25 mM lysine. 1-3 x 10^7 cells were lysed in 1 ml lysis buffer [1% Triton X-100, 50 mM Tris-OH (pH 7.4), 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, 5 mM iodoacetamide, protease inhibitors]. Protein in cleared supernatants was quantitated with a MICROBCA™ kit (Pierce, Chemical Co., Rockford, IL) and lysates were precleared using ULTRALINK-Protein A/G beads (Pierce Chemical Co.). MICA was precipitated with purified mAB 56 and protein A/G beads and immunocomplexes washed. Aliquots were treated with *N*-glycanase (PNGase F, New England Biolabs Inc., Beverly, MA) as